THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Sir, Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB) has provided assistance in the; form of fifteen High Frequency fixed/ mobile wireless sets and spare parts worth US dollar 73,485 during November. 1993.

(c) FAO mobileses International Donor Assistance to improve the Locust control capabilities of locust affeoted countries. Assistance by Australian International Development Assistance Bureau was pro vided to improve our communication net work.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise_

(f) Wireless sets are used for timely transmission of locust information for organising ground and aerial control opera, tions.

Series of earthquakes since September 30, 1993 quakes in Maharashtra

2108. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE, be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Latur-Osmanabad belt in MahtariShtra has continued to receive a series of earthquakes even after September 30, 1993 quake, though with mil der intensity;

(b) if so, what further damage to life and property has been caused by the frequent tremors since the cevastating quake of September 30, 1993;

(c) whether the frequent earth quakes have kept lacs of inhabitants of the area out in the open fields for months together; and

(d) what steps have been taken and are being taken with or without Central assistance to resettle the victims on a stable footing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN T MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SF ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(,b) The After-quakes have not cau any *damage.*

(c) No, Sir. Govt, of Manarass have provided temporary shelters in ares affected by the earthquake.

(?) The measures taken for re-setti the earchquafo victims include following:—

(i) The victims were provided w food, drinking water, milk, ck utensils, medical aid, electric temporary shelters, etc.

(ii) The villages, destroyed exieniv are being relocated at safer placi

(iii) Seeds have been distributed the farmers for Rabi season.

(iv)' A comprehensive rehapilital programme has been planned w World Bank assistance in the at of housing and infrastructure, so and economic rehabilitation, other related sectors.

Processing of paddy production

2189. SHRI BHUPINDER SIN MANN: Will the Minister of AGR1C1 TURE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that fan; are allowed to process their own pad production to marketable rice with any licence/permit;

(b) if so, what are the conditions 1 •'own for licence/permit;

(c) if not, what are the reasons the for; and

(d) in what manner the present we ing but outdated rice-shelling machir is efficient as compared to World (dards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN 1 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURL (SI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.